

## SOAR Curricular Material #3

## KWL Chart

[illegible]

## SOAR Curricular Material #3

## Double-Entry Journal for Interpreting Documents

[illegible]

### SOAR Curricular Material #3

#### Memorial Day Reflections (May 1915—Original Version)

Another national holiday [Memorial Day] is fast approaching. It is one of the few days when we are taught to cast our glance backwards and pay our due respects to those who have fallen for the Union. We honor them for the self-sacrifice they made and for the noble purposes which impelled them onward. But the world is full of opposites. For us, Memorial Day has become largely a holiday affair. We no longer think of the bitterness and loss which this day once brought to remembrance, and there remains only “the cherished memory of the loved and lost.” Should our thoughts, however, turn toward Europe, the sight ought to dampen our Memorial Day enthusiasm. We might there witness the same subject from a different angle—Memorial Days in the process of formation. How many countries will have another day to add to their national calendars after the present war! While we are wont to observe Memorial Day in a jubilant spirit, this reminder across the water ought to awaken in us a few more serious reflections this year. We may grow callous with hearing about war, but we cannot take away its terribleness. The hardships to be suffered are no lighter than our own men bore. The men who are being sacrificed today are just as noble as were our own, whether they march under the standards of Germany, England, Russia or France. Every American ought to be able to extend, in thought, the brother’s hand to the men of Europe. Even though you think the fault does lie mostly on one side, it certainly does not lie with the individual men who suffer. It would be selfish for us to observe our Memorial Day just as usual, without a thought for those now in trouble. So, while we strew the graves of our own honored veterans with flowers, let us also remember the heart-aches and wounds of those across the sea with the best we have—our sympathies and prayers.

~~A.P. Z.